

**Office of the Mayor  
for the City of La Marque**

# ***PROCLAMATION***

**WHEREAS**, Galveston County is the birthplace of Juneteenth and many events are being held in and around the county to observe this pivotal point in our nation's history; and

**WHEREAS**, the pursuit of freedom is, and always has been a fundamental force in American society. The protection of the right to freedom is beloved and shared by all Americans regardless of colors, creeds, cultures, religions and countries-of- origin; and

**WHEREAS**, commemoration of the historical arrival of Union soldiers in Galveston, Texas on June 19, 1865, two and a half years post the signature of the Emancipation Proclamation by President Lincoln is known as Juneteenth, and is widely considered the longest running African American holiday; and

**WHEREAS**, it was not until January 1, 1980, that Juneteenth became an official state holiday thanks to the efforts of Al Edwards, an African American state legislator, and only in 2021 was Juneteenth declared a federal legal holiday; and


**WHEREAS**, Juneteenth marks the official end of slavery in the United States, marking the beginning of the pursuit of racial equality and justice that would spark many social justice movements in the generations to follow; and

**NOW, THEREFORE**, we the Mayor and City Council by virtue of our authority vested by the City of La Marque, Texas, do hereby proclaim June 19, 2022 as a Special:

## **“JUNETEENTH”**

in the City of La Marque and do hereby encourage all citizens and businesses and professional bodies to participate in this observance actively and appropriately.

In testimony whereof, witness my hand and the Seal of the City of La Marque, this the 10<sup>th</sup> day of June 2022.

  
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Keith Bell, Mayor